



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Iowa Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending May 31, 2015  
Issued June 1, 2015

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Cool temperatures and persistent wet conditions hindered fieldwork in Iowa during the week ending May 31, 2015, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Statewide there were only **2.3 days suitable for fieldwork**. Operators reported standing water in some fields and the need to replant in areas of some fields. Producers are still concerned about muddy feedlots and limited spraying due to wet fields.

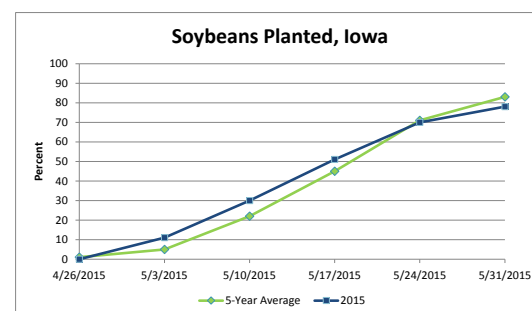
**Topsoil moisture** levels rated to 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 76 percent adequate and 22 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** levels rated 0 percent very short, 6 percent short, 79 percent adequate and 15 percent surplus. Southwest and south central Iowa both reported 50 percent surplus topsoil moisture levels. South central Iowa reported over one-third surplus subsoil moisture levels.

Ninety-seven percent of the **corn** crop has been planted, behind last year's progress for the first time this season. Corn emerged reached 90 percent, just 2 days ahead of last year and the 5-year average. Eighty percent of the corn crop was rated good to excellent. **Soybean** planting reached 78 percent complete, one week behind 2014, and 4 days behind average. Southwest and south central Iowa continued to lag behind in the planting of their expected soybean acreage with only 37 and 50 percent of their soybean crop in the ground, respectively. Soybean emergence reached 53 percent, slightly behind last year and normal. **Oat** emergence is nearly complete, while oats headed reached 8 percent this week, almost one week behind the 5-year average. Oat condition rated 81 percent good to excellent.

Frequent rains continued to slow progress on the first cutting of **alfalfa hay** with just 18 percent complete. Hay conditions rated 82 percent good to excellent. **Pasture condition** improved to 76 percent good to excellent. Livestock conditions were described as good with cool temperatures and no heat stress.

## Crop conditions as of May 31, 2015

Item	Very Poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn, all .....	0	2	18	65	15
Hay, all .....	0	1	17	62	20
Oats .....	0	0	19	67	14
Pasture & Range...	0	2	22	56	20



## Field Work and Crop Progress as of May 31, 2015

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr Avg
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Oats headed.....	11	4	4	14	18	9	12	9	17	8	1	11	15
Corn emerged.....	98	96	86	92	94	91	65	84	89	90	81	86	87
Soybeans planted.....	89	90	89	76	88	90	37	50	74	78	70	92	83
Soybeans emerged.....	64	68	61	46	69	63	13	32	45	53	32	57	55
Alfalfa Hay first cutting.....	39	9	39	10	22	25	0	2	19	18	11	20	33

## Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of May 31, 2015

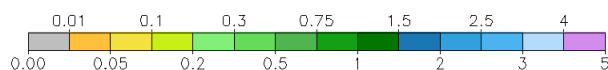
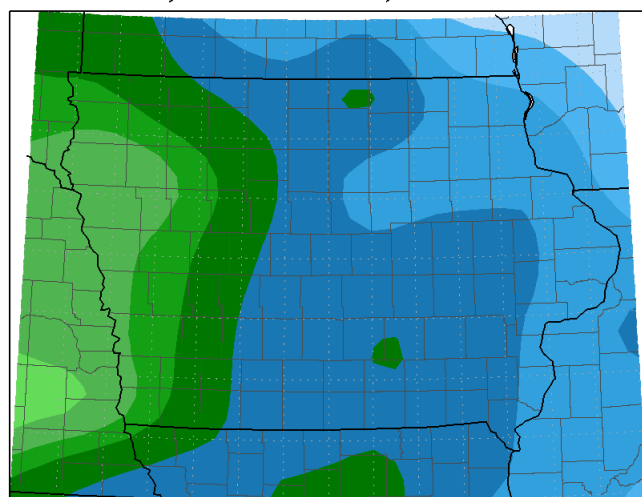
Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)
Days suitable .....	2.8	2.1	3.2	2.4	2.1	2.7	1.7	0.8	2.3	2.3	2.8	5.1
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Short .....	5	0	2	3	3	4	1	0	5	2	3	14
Adequate .....	80	88	88	81	72	76	49	50	62	76	74	77
Surplus .....	15	12	10	16	25	20	50	50	32	22	23	7
Subsoil moisture												
Very short .....	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	6
Short .....	11	1	9	3	9	4	1	4	14	6	7	25
Adequate .....	74	88	84	86	76	79	71	59	63	79	79	64
Surplus .....	13	11	7	11	15	17	28	37	20	15	13	5

## IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist  
Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship

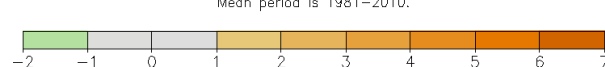
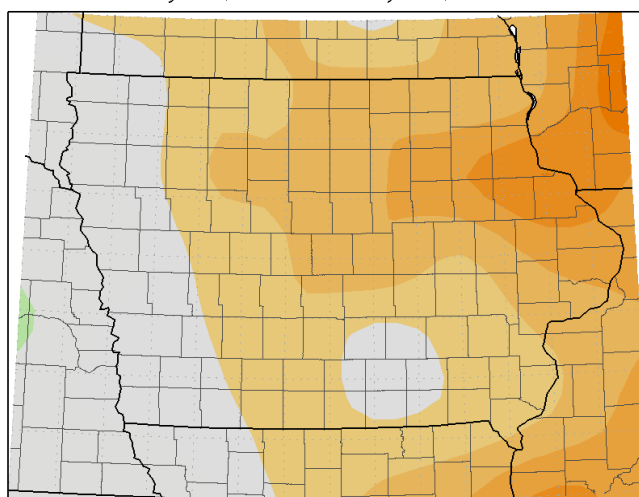
The past reporting week began with frequent widespread rainfall and warmer than normal weather from Sunday (24<sup>th</sup>) through Tuesday (26<sup>th</sup>). Wednesday (27<sup>th</sup>) was dry while rain was concentrated over southern Iowa on Thursday (28<sup>th</sup>) with daytime high temperatures mostly in the low eighties both days. Friday (29<sup>th</sup>) was another relatively warm day, but with widespread light to moderate rain with greatest rain amounts over the north. Much colder weather prevailed over the weekend with light rain scattered over the southeast on Saturday (30<sup>th</sup>) while Sunday (31<sup>st</sup>) was dry. Temperature extremes varied from Wednesday afternoon highs of 86 degrees at Spencer, Okoboji Lake and Emmetsburg, while Elkader reported a low of 40 degrees on Sunday (31<sup>st</sup>) morning. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 0.5 degrees above normal for the statewide average with readings averaging just below normal over the western one-third of the state to a degree or two above normal over the east. Rainfall totals varied from only 0.19 inches at Holstein to 4.68 inches just east of Denison, where a narrow band of thunderstorms dumped heavy rain on Monday night. The statewide average precipitation was 1.10 inches, or just slightly above the weekly normal of 1.07 inches.

Accumulated Precipitation (in)  
May 25, 2015 to May 31, 2015



Midwestern Regional Climate Center  
cli-MATE: MRCC Application Tools Environment  
Generated at: 6/1/2015 7:47:10 AM CDT

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from Mean  
May 25, 2015 to May 31, 2015



Mean period is 1981-2010.  
Midwestern Regional Climate Center  
cli-MATE: MRCC Application Tools Environment  
Generated at: 6/1/2015 9:12:24 AM CDT

Access the Iowa State Climatologist's website at: <http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/climatology.asp>

Iowa Environmental Mesonet data, courtesy of Iowa State University of Science and technology, is available at:  
<https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/agweather/>

Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: <http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/>